

Virginia Nutrient Management Verification Form

-Planner Document-

Farmer Name or Tracking Number: _____

County(s): _____

Number of acres covered by the plan: _____

Certified Nutrient Management Planner Certification Number _____

Instructions: In this initial evaluation the verification will cover the most recent 12 month period.

Answer all of the questions below to evaluate your client's implementation of their Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) and to help us better evaluate the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR's) nutrient management program. Many of the questions below address the specific activities that the farmer must carry out to implement the NMP. Base your answers on an interview with the farmer and review of the farmer's nutrient management records. Attaching copies of farmer nutrient records is not required.

Use the "notes" sections (where provided) to explain any "justifiable deviations*" by the farmer from the NMP or other discrepancies between the plan and the farmer's records.

*A "justifiable deviation" would be a situation where the farmer takes action that is not exactly as specified in the NMP, but which would follow the intent and standards and specifications of the Virginia Nutrient Management Program. Examples would include: applying lower N and P rates than called for in the plan (as long as there is no yield loss as a result), spreading on snow covered fields only after contacting and working with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to best identify the last risk sites that should be used to prevent a waste storage facility from overtopping, adjusting the nutrients applied to reflect changes in the crops actually planted if different from what was written in the NMP, etc.

If a Certified Nutrient Management Planner determines that there is a "justifiable deviation", they must fully document why the deviation is justified. Justification will be based on how closely the deviation still aligns with plan writing criteria. A significant number of justifiable deviation acres indicates that a plan should have been amended prior to the surveyed plan year. Amendments should be made, ideally before the actual operation, but at least as soon after the change as possible. Additional follow up communication may be warranted in these situations to ensure the farmer's planning needs are being adequately addressed and "implemented" acres can show a positive commitment on behalf of the farmer and the planner.

Implemented acres = yes acres + justifiable deviation acres.

Total acres = yes acres + justifiable deviation acres + no acres.

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

Nutrient Management Plan Content

1. Does the NMP cover sheet include a DCR-certified NMP writer's name, certification number, and signature?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Notes: _____

2. Does the farmer have a current NMP? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Time Period Covered by the NMP? ☐ 1 YR ☐ 3 YR ☐ 5 YR
4. Plan Expiration Date: _____

5. Is the NMP based on up-to-date on: Soil Tests: Yes _____ acres No _____ acres
Manure Tests: Yes _____ acres No _____ acres
Manure Sample Date: _____

6. Are all fields in the NMP receiving nutrient applications under the operational control of the farmer? Yes _____ acres No _____ acres

Notes: _____

7. Do Crop Rotations match the NMP? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(If the crop rotation does not match the NMP did the farmer adjust his nutrient applications to fit the crop in the field while not over applying nutrients? To accept this deviation, there must be records on the farm which document the changes made.)

Matching Acres: _____

Justifiable Deviation Acres: _____

Acres not Matching: _____

i. **Example: Acceptable Corn in plan. Sorghum planted, but nutrients applied at Sorghum rate.**

ii. **Example NOT acceptable: Corn in plan, nutrients applied at corn rate, sorghum planted or field left fallow**

Notes: _____

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

8. Does the farmer follow recommendations in the NMP related to timing of inorganic nitrogen (N) fertilizer applications to every field? Specifically, apply no inorganic N fertilizer applications in the absence of an actively growing crop or more than 30 days ahead of planting. Yes _____ acres No _____ acres

Notes: _____

9. Does the farmer follow all application rate recommendations for nitrogen (N), phosphorous (P), potassium (K), and lime in the NMP for every area covered by the NMP? *(Note, if the farmer applies nutrients at a rate lower than indicated in the NMP the farmer is still considered to be following the NMP, as long as crop yields do not suffer as a result)* This includes any P-based restrictions or prohibitions on application of manure?

Yes _____ acres No _____ acres Justifiable Deviation Acres: _____

i. Example: Acceptable P Index indicates 1.5 times P on crop. Farmer applies to meet crop removal.

ii. Example: Acceptable Farmer only applies enough K₂O to meet crop needs.

iii. Example Not acceptable: No P or K added and crop production is less than productivity ratings. (Plan will have to be modified at lower production rates)

Notes: _____

10. Does the farmer have his own spreader equipment:

Yes _____ No _____

- a. If yes, has he calibrated his fertilizer applicator equipment before the last season of application?

Yes: _____ Date of Calibration: _____ No: _____

OR

- b. All fertilizer applications are done by a commercial applicator or using rented equipment: ☐ (then the farmer would not be responsible for verifying any calibration)

11. Does farmer have records showing they have implemented the NMP? *(No specific format or form is required. Nutrient application rates, dates, methods, etc. should be documented in sufficient detail to reasonably demonstrate that the plan has been followed.)*

Yes _____ acres No _____ acres

Notes: _____

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

12. On fields listed in the NMP as environmentally sensitive sites, does the farmer follow the more intensive guidelines listed in the NMP for rate, timing of nutrient applications? *(In particular, split all inorganic nitrogen (N) applications to row crops and small grains between at least two applications. Also, follow more restrictive guidelines on timing of any manure spreading i.e., not spread more than 30 days before planting or in absence of a growing crop). If the farm has no environmentally sensitive sites, skip.)*

Yes _____ acres No _____ acres

Notes: _____

Animal Waste Production & Utilization

(if no animal waste is produced or used on farm, skip to next section)

1. Are the following NMP numbers consistent with the current farm operation?

<u>Livestock:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<u>Manure Production:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<u>Usage numbers:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

If no, the actual amounts are:

Livestock: _____ Manure: _____ Usage: _____

Notes: *(if the number of animals has changed by 10% or more the plan must have been updated to answer the question affirmative)* _____

2. Is poultry litter exported? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- a. If yes, Tons Exported: _____ County of Grower _____
- County Exported to _____

Broker: _____

End User(s): _____

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

3. Is all spreading or spraying equipment calibrated yearly? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Notes: _____

4. Does the farmer follow the spreading schedule in the NMP for applied manure? (*Less restrictive application timing may be allowed to manage storage constraints on sites that are not environmentally sensitive*)

Yes _____ acres No _____ acres N/A Acres _____ acres

Notes: _____

5. Does the farmer follow all restrictions in the NMP regarding nutrient applications to frozen or snow covered ground as stipulated in the approved NMP? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Notes: _____

6. Does the farmer follow all NMP recommendations for not spreading manure in designated setback areas? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Notes: _____

7. Does the NMP include plans for manure applications on fields with Very High soil test P levels? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, are the manure application rates consistent with the P management provisions in Virginia Nutrient Standards & Criteria revised July, 2014?

Yes _____ acres No _____ acres N/A _____ acres

Notes: _____

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

I confirm that to the best of my knowledge the above information is correct.

Based upon the information collected, I believe that the farmer is implementing the Nutrient Management Plan in accordance with the Virginia NMP standards and criteria to the degree depicted below. DCR will track and report all three categories.

A) Yes acres: _____

B) Justifiable Deviation acres: _____

C) No Acres: _____

D) Total Plan Acres (= A + B + C): _____

Percentage implemented: (=A+B divided by D then x 100) _____

Certified Planner's Signature _____ Date: _____

Additional Enhanced Nutrient Management BMP's

Advanced N Management Tools:

1. Does the farmer apply fertilizer by variable or zone application rate?

☐ Yes ☐ No Total Yes Acres: _____

Lime (Ac): _____ P (Ac): _____ N (Ac): _____

- A. Does the farmer do any of the following for additional Nitrogen (N) reductions?

2. Split N applications? ☐ Yes ☐ No Total Yes Acres: _____

Sidedress Acres: _____ Topdress Acres: _____

3. More than one split application of N on corn, cotton, or small grain?

☐ Yes ☐ No Total Yes Acres: _____

Sidedress Acres: _____ Topdress Acres: _____

4. Inject N? ☐ Yes ☐ No Yes Acres: _____

5. Incorporate N? ☐ Yes ☐ No Yes Acres: _____

6. Taken & follow recommendations for following tests?

PSNT ☐ Yes ☐ No #Samples: _____ Yes Acres: _____

CSNT ☐ Yes ☐ No #Samples: _____ Yes Acres: _____

Fall Soil Nitrate Samples

☐ Yes ☐ No #Samples: _____ Yes Acres: _____

7. Apply N at less than plan recommended rate?

☐ Yes ☐ No Yes Acres: _____

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

Advanced Phosphorus Management Tools

B. Does the farmer do any of the following for additional Phosphorus (P) reductions?

1. Follows recommendations of the Environmental Threshold?

☐ Yes ☐ No Yes Acres: _____

2. Band P at planting?

☐ Yes ☐ No Yes Acres: _____

3. Follow recommendations of the P-Index?

☐ Yes ☐ No Yes Acres: _____

4. Apply less P than the plan recommends?

☐ Yes ☐ No Yes Acres: _____

5. Is P applied in zones based upon soil samples?

☐ Yes ☐ No Yes Acres: _____

I confirm that to the best of my knowledge the above Enhancement BMP acres are correct.

Planner's Signature _____

Date: _____